

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 07768 281749Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1318

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 7768

NODIS

DEPT. FOR A/O, AND WHITE HOUSE: FOR NORMAL EUROPEAN
TRIP DISTRIBUTION. DEPT. ASSURE RUMSFELD DELIVERY ONLY.

FOR ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT DONALD RUMSFELD FROM
AMBASSADOR VOLPE

E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 7/1/75

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT - SCHEDULING

1. PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE FOR ROME FIRING UP NICELY. PRESIDENT
LEONE AND ITALIAN GOVERNMENT LEADERS LOOKING FORWARD TO VISIT WITH
GREAT ANTICIPATION.

2. REGRET THAT MY PROPOSED RAI-TV INTERVIEW COULD NOT BE
APPROVED BUT FULLY APPRECIATE AND UNDERSTAND SCHEDULING DIFFICUL-
TIES WHICH I DO NOT WANT TO ADD TO. IT NOW SEEMS PROPOSED SEVEN-
MINUTE SWING BY THE EMBASSY MAY ALSO BE SCRUBBED. PRESENTLY, FIRST
OPTION MOTORCADE ROUTE FOR TRIP FROM QUIRINALE TO VILLA MADAMA
(MORO MEETING) WILL PASS DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF EMBASSY. PRESIDENTIAL
MOTORCADE COULD SWING THROUGH EMBASSY GROUNDS WITH BRIEF (FIVE
MINUTE) STOP FOR PRESIDENT TO SAY FEW WORDS TO ASSEMBLED AMERICAN
AND ITALIAN STAFF AND SHAKE A FEW HANDS.

3. IT WOULD BE IRONIC IF THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE UNABLE TO DO THIS
WHEN LESS OPEN OR PERSONABLE PREDECESSORS MADE IT PART OF THEIR
ROME ITINERARIES. RECOGNIZE OTHER VISITS WERE LONGER BUT
HOPEFULLY WE COULD FIND THE SEVEN MINUTES IT WOULD TAKE TO GIVE
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EVERYONE HERE A LIFT AND ADD THE PERSONAL TOUCH SO NATURAL TO THE

PRESIDENT.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR GIVING THIS PROPOSAL YOUR ATTENTION AND,
HOPEFULLY, YOUR SUPPORT.VOLPE

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